



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
MAYOR JERRY SANDERS

Public Library

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NOTE TO EDITORS: A varied selection of high resolution, color digital images is available from the library curator on request.

**FAIYA FREDMAN EXHIBITION AT TAYLOR LIBRARY
FEATURES BOTANICAL IMAGERY**
More than Thirty New Images to be Exhibited

SAN DIEGO – The Visual Arts Program of the San Diego Public Library is proud to host “Faiya Fredman: Botanical Images 2005 – 2007,” an exhibition of more than thirty pigment prints depicting arrangements of flowers, leaves, and other botanical elements and forms by renowned San Diego artist Faiya Fredman. The exhibition will be on display in the gallery of the Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch Library, and runs from October 21 to December 2, 2007. A reception for Fredman will be held on Sunday, October 21, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The exhibition and reception are free of charge to the public.

Fredman, now 82 years old, is one of the city’s most respected artists. Her work can be found in many public and private collections, including the Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY; the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA; the Oakland Museum, Oakland, CA; the Chicago Art Institute, Chicago, IL; the Museum of Photographic Arts, San Diego, CA; the Museum of Contemporary Art, La Jolla, CA; the University of California, Los Angeles; the J. Paul Getty Center for the History of Art and the Humanities, Los Angeles, CA; and numerous others.

Throughout her career, Fredman has achieved recognition for an extensive and diverse body of work ranging from monumental sculpture to large mixed-media paintings incorporating three-dimensional elements. Consistently original and elegant, she has derived her inspiration from universal phenomena and timeless places, including the cycles of life, nature, the cosmos,

– more –

ancient astronomy and mythologies, and archaeological sites and artifacts. Playing into these themes is her experimentation with non-traditional materials, recent technologies, and unusual techniques. The advent of digital technologies has further enriched her arsenal of techniques and materials.

Visually, “Botanical Images 2005 – 2007” marks one of the most surprising and radical changes in Fredman’s artistry in nearly six decades. Captured using a flatbed scanner, then extensively manipulated, the images range from sumptuous and colorful to elegant and spare. Some evoke comparison to lavish 17th and 18th century Dutch still life paintings, whereas others, whose primary elements are leaves and twigs, suggest ikebana in their austerity and painstaking composition. Another group of images is imbued with as much movement and passion as a powerful abstract expressionist painting. While these works are undeniably breathtaking in their beauty and detail, there is more than meets the eye. In keeping with Fredman’s creative history, “Botanical Images” also explores decay and renewal, a theme that has interested the artist throughout her career and one that has had particular relevance to her recently.

The Pacific Beach/Taylor Library is open seven days a week and is located at 4275 Cass Street. Library hours are: Mondays and Wednesday, 12:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Fridays, 12:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; and Sundays, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The San Diego Public Library’s Visual Arts Program is a nationally recognized series of exhibitions, lectures, a television program, and other art-related activities. The mission of the Program is to demonstrate the Library’s role as a cultural institution embracing a broad range of disciplines, while assisting San Diego’s mid-career and older professional artists in achieving wider local, regional, and national attention. Visual Arts Program exhibitions are made possible, in part, by contributions from individuals, volunteer efforts, and the Friends of Central Library. For more information about the Fredman exhibition, or tax-deductible contributions to the Visual Arts Program, the public can contact the library curator at (619) 238-6627.

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